

## Message Text

UNCLASSIFIED

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ACTION EA-12

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-05 H-02 INR-10  
L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-02 SP-02 SS-15 ICA-20  
/077 W

-----083612 230927Z /23

R 230327Z MAY 78  
FM AMEMBASSY WELLINGTON  
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 5607  
INFO AMCONSUL AUCKLAND  
AMEMBASSY CANBERRA  
AMEMBASSY SUVA

UNCLAS WELLINGTON 02706

EO 11652: N/A  
TAGS: PGOV, NZ  
SUBJECT: LABOUR PARTY RESHUFFLES ITS SHADOW CABINET

1. ONE WEEK AFTER OPENING THE 1978 PARLIAMENTARY SESSION, LEADER OF THE OPPOSITION, BILL ROWLING, ANNOUNCED MAY 18 A RESHUFFLE OF HIS SHADOW CABINET. RESHUFFLE WAS DESIGNED TO FILL SEVERAL VACANCIES LEFT BY IMPENDING RETIREMENTS (AS WELL AS ONE DEFECTION TO THE INDEPENDENT RANKS), AND TO STRENGTHEN THE OPPOSITION DEBATE IN PREPARATION FOR THE EXPECTED NOVEMBER ELECTIONS.

2. CHANGES ARE NOTABLE ONLY AS A REFLECTION OF THE METEORIC RISE OF LABOUR'S NEWEST MP, DAVID LANGE. IN BUT 15 MONTHS, LANGE HAS MOVED FROM THE DEEPEST BACK BENCHES TO SECOND ROW CENTER AND AN OPPOSITION JUSTICE "PORTFOLIO." REPORTEDLY, LANGE JUST MISSED IN THE PARTY CAUCUS CAPTURING THE DEPUTY LEADERSHIP ROLE FROM VETERAN BOB TIZARD, AND IN A RECENT NATIONWIDE OPINION POLL, LANGE PLACED A COMFORTABLE SECOND (TO ROWLING) AS LABOUR'S MOST POPULAR PARLIAMENTARIANS. IT IS PERHAPS ALSO WORTH NOTING THAT WHILE WARREN FREER REMAINS

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LABOUR'S CHIEF SPOKESMAN ON FOREIGN AFFAIRS, PARTY PRESIDENT ARTHUR FAULKNER (WHO HELD, IN SUCCESSION, THE PORTFOLIOS OF DEFENSE AND LABOR IN THE LAST LABOUR GOVERNMENT) HAS BEEN NAMED ASSOCIATE SPOKESMAN ON FOREIGN AFFAIRS.

3. THE FULL LIST OF SPOKESMEN ARE:

FINANCE	BOB TIZARD
TRADE AND INDUSTRY	WARREN FREER
INDUSTRIAL RELATIONS	ARTHUR FAULKNER
AGRICULTURE	BRUCE BARCLAY
ENERGY	FRASER COLMAN
TRANSPORT	SIR BASIL ARTHUR
WORKS	RON BAILEY
HOUSING	BILL FRASER
SOCIAL WELFARE	MICK CONNELLY
HEALTH	JONATHAN HUNT
EDUCATION	RUSSELL MARSHALL
MAORI AFFAIRS	MATT RATA
WOMEN'S RIGHTS	MARY BATCHELOR
JUSTICE	DAVID LANGE
DEFENSE	ROGER DRAYTON
FOREIGN AFFAIRS	WARREN FREER
IMMIGRATION	TREVOR YOUNG
TOURISM	JOHN KIRK
ENVIRONMENT	RICHARD PREBBLE
ARTS, RECREATION	EDDIE ISBEY
- AND SPORT	
LOCAL GOVERNMENT	DR. GERARD WALL
POST OFFICE	FRANK ROGERS

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NNN

## Message Attributes

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**Capture Date:** 01 jan 1994  
**Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Current Classification:** UNCLASSIFIED  
**Concepts:** SHADOW CABINET, REORGANIZATIONS  
**Control Number:** n/a  
**Copy:** SINGLE  
**Draft Date:** 23 may 1978  
**Decaption Date:** 20 Mar 2014  
**Decaption Note:** 25 YEAR REVIEW  
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**Disposition Approved on Date:**  
**Disposition Case Number:** n/a  
**Disposition Comment:**  
**Disposition Date:** 01 jan 1960  
**Disposition Event:**  
**Disposition History:** n/a  
**Disposition Reason:**  
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**Enclosure:** n/a  
**Executive Order:** N/A  
**Errors:** N/A  
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**Subject:** LABOUR PARTY RESHUFFLES ITS SHADOW CABINET  
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**Review Markings:**  
Sheryl P. Walter  
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